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CONSUMER TIME

R-34

Reserve

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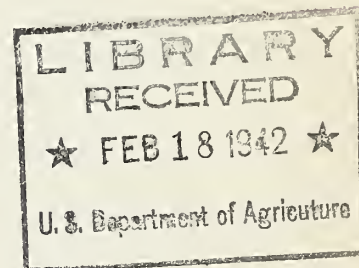
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Produced by Consumers' Counsel Division of the Department of Agriculture,  
and presented in cooperation with Defense and non-Defense agencies  
of the United States Government working for consumers.

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1. ANNOUNCER: This is CONSUMER TIME.
2. SOUND: CASH REGISTER - CLOSE DRAWER
3. NANCY: That's your money buying food.
4. SOUND: CASH REGISTER
5. REPORTER: That's your money paying for a home.
6. SOUND: CASH REGISTER
7. NANCY: That's your money buying clothes and the thousands  
of other things you need.
8. REPORTER: That's you . . . paying for these things . . . money out  
of your pockets.
9. SOUND: CASH REGISTER - CLOSE DRAWER





10. ANNOUNCER: Are you getting the most for your money? Is it buying you the strength and health and courage that will mean victory for the American way?

CONSUMER TIME brings you facts that will make your pennies and dollars go farther and bring you more of the things that you and all Americans need. This program is produced by your Consumers' Counsel in the Department of Agriculture, and is presented in cooperation with Defense and non-Defense agencies of the United States Government working for consumers.

And here today are your consumer reporters - Nancy Ordway, who will tell you ---

11. NANCY: How to save electricity.

12. ANNOUNCER: And \_\_\_\_\_.

13. REPORTER: Building bombers at home.

14. FREYMAN: What!

15. REPORTER: Yes, Mrs. Freyman - that's my subject. Maybe you didn't know that you've got parts of planes lying around in your attic and basement and back yard.

16. FREYMAN: No, I certainly didn't!



17. REPORTER: Well, you have - you and the rest of America's hundred-and-thirty million consumers. You're going to build half the bombers and tanks and battleships that America will use in this war.
18. FREYMAN: \_\_\_\_\_ - will you please explain?
19. REPORTER: Well, I guess you've heard of the national campaign now on to salvage scrap metal ---
20. FREYMAN: Yes, I've even salvaged some. And scrap was the word!
21. REPORTER: What kind of scrap?
22. FREYMAN: Well, it was right after your radio program on waste paper. When ours piled up again, I salvaged them. And how I salvaged them! When my husband came home and saw that basement ---
- ( PAUSE )
23. DAVID: (FADING IN) Evelyn - you - you didn't burn the papers again ---?
24. FREYMAN: No - this time I sold them to a waste dealer. Here's the money ---
25. SOUND: JINGLE OF COINS DROPPING INTO HAND.
26. DAVID: Gee! All this?
27. FREYMAN: I guess you've got a pretty smart wife.





28. DAVID:               Guess I have! A saleswoman - and a basement cleaner ---
29. FREYMAN:            Did you see the garage?
30. DAVID:               Uh - huh - I thought you'd been slicking it up,  
                          honey.
31. FREYMAN:            Well, I just started - then it began to snow ---
32. DAVID:               Yeah - guess I'll have to put chains on the old  
                          jalopy tomorrow. Didn't happen to see them while  
                          you were rumaging around out there ---?
33. FREYMAN:            Chains . . . You mean - those old broken, rusty ---
34. DAVID:               Well, they weren't brand new. I got them second hand.
35. FREYMAN:            But they didn't look any good.
36. DAVID:               Evelyn - you - you didn't do anything with those  
                          chains ---?
37. FREYMAN:            I - I sold them to the junk man.'
38. DAVID:               You what?
39. FREYMAN:            I didn't know you needed them. I-I'll get them  
                          back.
40. DAVID:               A fat chance!

(PAUSE)



41. FREYMAN: (ON CUE) Luckily, I did get them back, . But that whole incident has made me sort of leery of salvaging scrap metal.
42. REPORTER: Scrap metal is right!
43. FREYMAN: What do you think I ought to do about it?
44. REPORTER: Well, I should think that you and your husband might go over your house together, and make a list of things that might be salvaged - things you don't need.
45. FREYMAN: But I still don't see what you meant by saying that we consumers will build half the tanks and battleships.
46. REPORTER: Well, according to the War Production Board, almost one half of all the iron and steel used must be scrap metal.
47. FREYMAN: Why? Because new metal's so scarce?
48. REPORTER: No - that's just the way steel is made - half scrap metal, and half pig iron. So - the more scrap you can salvage, the more steel we can turn out - the more guns and tanks and battleships ---
49. FREYMAN: ) But \_\_\_\_\_ - do you think there's really much scrap metal lying around our homes?



50. REPORTER: Well, according to Government estimates, there's probably one quarter to one half a ton of scrap on every farm in this country -- old iron kettles, and rusty tools, and broken machinery ---
51. FREYMAN: A quarter of a ton on each farm . . How much would that be in the whole country?
52. REPORTER: Enough scrap to make as many battleships as there are in the whole world today -- or so many two-thousand-pound bombs that we could drop four of them every minute for over a year.
53. FREYMAN: Goodness! Then scrap metal's pretty important.
54. REPORTER: You bet it's important. We've just got to build more.
55. FREYMAN: Well, suppose I lived on a farm, \_\_\_\_\_, and had a lot of old machinery and junk I didn't need . . How would I go about getting it to the factories?
56. REPORTER: You could tell your USDA War Boards or your county agent that you have scrap metal to sell -- and they'll see that somebody comes to collect it. You see, salvage campaigns are being organized throughout the nation, and various farm groups -- like the Four-H Clubs -- are helping.



57. FREYMAN: Of course, in the city it would be much easier to get rid of scrap metal. I'd just have to look up the name of a waste dealer in the directory and phone him.
58. REPORTER: Yes - or, if you'd rather let some charity organization profit from your scrap metal, you can call them. Then they'll cart your stuff away and sell it to the dealer. Either way, it will reach the factories that need it.
59. FREYMAN: Well, what kind of metals do they need, \_\_\_\_\_?
60. REPORTER: Everything - except tin cans.
61. FREYMAN: Why not tin cans?
62. REPORTER: Because they're made of a combination of metals, and all the time and money it costs to separate those and make them usable again isn't worth the amount of metal recovered.
63. FREYMAN: But I can't think of any other waste metal ---
64. REPORTER: Oh, you probably have an old scrub pail you don't need - or pieces of tin roofing or drainpipe -
65. FREYMAN: Say there is some tin roofing in the basement - if I can persuade David to part with it ---





66. REPORTER: Just tell him it might make a propeller for a battleship. And then if you have any old brass doorknobs around the house - or ashtrays, or andirons ---
67. FREYMAN: We have some andirons - and no fireplace.
68. REPORTER: Well, they'd be a lot more useful as shell casings.
69. FREYMAN: Oh, and we have an old lamp base we never use ---
70. REPORTER: Swell. Maybe you have some old wall brackets too - or a chandelier ---
71. FREYMAN: No, I don't think so ---
72. REPORTER: Then some old pieces of lead pipe - or brass pipe, or copper. Or maybe an old iron bedstead - or some broken springs - bottle caps - toothpaste tubes ---
73. FREYMAN: Any kind of metal, huh?
74. REPORTER: Any kind and every kind. Little and big. Just get in the scrap.
75. FREYMAN: I will get in the scrap - only this time I'll get my husband in too. Why, he might even part with those tire chains - now that winter's nearly over.
76. REPORTER: He might - if he won't ever need them again. And don't forget rags - and rubber - and papers. All those things should be saved - each in its separate box or pile.



77. FREYMAN: I won't forget. Not when saving means victory.
78. REPORTER: Right you are. And I think Nancy here has some suggestions for another kind of saving.
79. NANCY: (COMING ON MIKE) Indeed I have - saving electric power.
80. FREYMAN: Do you mean - saving on the electricity we use in our homes - or saving power for war production?
81. NANCY: I mean both. Those two things go together - and both of them are important these days.
82. FREYMAN: I don't understand just how electricity works, Nancy. Is there just so much power available?
83. NANCY: Well, there'd probably be unlimited power if we could harness all the rivers - and Niagara Falls - and the tides. But as things stand now, we have just so many dams to harness them - and just so many dynamos turning their power into electricity.
84. FREYMAN: I see. And that electricity has to be shared by the home owners and the factories.
85. NANCY: That's it. And so - the more electricity we save in our homes, the more there'll be to turn out guns and planes and battleships.
86. FREYMAN: Well, I know one way we all can save.



87. NANCY: What's that?

88. FREYMAN: The way my neighbor Mrs. Miles does - turning off the lights she doesn't need. You should have heard her the other evening when she came home and found every light in the house blazing forth ---

(PAUSE)

89. SOUND: DOOR CLOSSES

90. MOTHER M: (OFF, CALLING) Barbara!

91. BARBARA: (ON AINE) Hello, Mom.

92. MOTHER M: (FADING IN) Good heavens! What's the matter with you, child?

93. BARBARA: Nothing. Why?

94. MOTHER M: All these lights on.

95. BARBARA: On - I was studying.

96. MOTHER M: Well, you certainly don't need every lamp in the living room to study by ---

97. SOUND: ELECTRIC LAMP CHAIN PULLED.

98. MOTHER M: Or this hall light ---

99. SOUND: ELECTRIC WALL SWITCH

100. MOTHER M: Or these, here in the dining room ---



101. SOUND: ELECTRIC SWITCH. THEN ANOTHER.

102. BARBARA: I forgot to turn them off.

103. MOTHER M: Well, why you ever turned them on is what I want to know.

104. BARBARA: I told you. To study.

105. MOTHER M: Now, Barbara - that's no excuse. Anybody'd think you were studying light.

106. BARBARA: I am.

107. MOTHER M: What?

108. BARBARA: In our science class. We're supposed to check up on all the light bulbs in our house and report on whether they follow the rules for good lighting.

109. MOTHER M: Well, I'm sure that all the light in our house ---

110. BARBARA: I'm going to report that you're wasting electricity.

111. MOTHER M: Barbara!

112. BARBARA: And money too.

113. MOTHER M: After the way I go around turning off lights ---!

114. BARBARA: You buy too many bulbs, Mom.

115. MOTHER M: Well, no wonder - with you and your father burning them out ---





116. BARBARA: You ought to buy fewer and bigger ones.
117. MOTHER M: Fewer and bigger! What do you mean?
118. BARBARA: Well, look at that lamp there on the table. Two sixty-watt bulbs!
119. MOTHER M: I think we need that much light to see well.
120. BARBARA: But one hundred-watter would give just as much light.
121. MOTHER M: It would?
122. BARBARA: Sure - and it'd cost only fifteen cents. Two sixties cost twenty-six cents.
123. MOTHER M: But how about the cost to run them - the electricity they use.
124. BARBARA: The hundred-watter would be cheaper.
125. MOTHER M: Are you sure?
126. BARBARA: Sure - because it'd use less electricity. I've figured it all out on paper.
127. MOTHER M: Let me see.
128. BARBARA: Here - see. Our light rate is about four cents per kilowatt-hour - isn't it?
129. MOTHER M: About.



130. BARBARA: Well, then one hundred-watt bulb costs four dollars to run a thousand hours. Two sixty-watters **would** cost five dollars to run the same length of time -- and give the same ~~am~~ount of light.

131. MOTHER M: Wait. Let me figure this out.

132. BARBARA: But it's right, Mom. I know it is. And that's ~~why~~ I turned on all the lights ---

133. MOTHER M: Well, that still doesn't excuse you for not turning them off again. Now, let me see . . . One hundred watt bulb -- at four cents per kilowatt hour ---

(PAUSE)

134. FREYMAN: I know that Mrs. Miles was right, Nancy -- with her idea for saving electricity ---

135. NANCY: Yes, if we'd all remember to turn off the lights we don't need, we'd save a lot of power for Defense.

136. FREYMAN: But what about Barbara's idea? Is that true -- that one hundred-watt bulb gives just as much light as two sixty-watters?

137. NANCY: Yes -- or six twenty-five watters.

138. FREYMAN: One hundred watt bulb equals two sixties -- or six twenty-fives.



139. NANCY: That's it. And the six twenty-fives would cost about ten cents apiece to buy - or sixty cents all together. That's forty-five cents more than the price of one hundred-watter.
140. FREYMAN: And how much would the six twenty-fives cost to run, Nancy?
141. NANCY: Well, figuring at the Miles' light rate of four cents per kilowatt hour - they would cost six dollars for a thousand hours.
142. FREYMAN: One dollar more than the two sixty-watters - and two dollars more than the hundred-watt bulb!
143. NANCY: Right.
144. FREYMAN: Then I should think everyone would use the hundred watt.
145. NANCY: If you want that much light. Then it's decidedly a saving to buy one large bulb rather than several small ones. The best rule to follow is - choose your bulb according to the job it must do.
146. FREYMAN: But are we going to be able to buy them, Nancy? I've read in the papers lately that bulb manufacturers can't get so much material ---



147. NANCY: That's true. Their allotment of brass and copper and nickel is going to be a good deal less than what they used last year.
148. FREYMAN: Then they can't make so many ---
149. NANCY: They won't be making so many Christmas tree bulbs -- or bulbs for display and decoration. But they say they'll turn out plenty of the kind we really need.
150. FREYMAN: Well, that's good to know. And when I do go buying them -- what about getting frosted bulbs? Do they give more or less light than clear ones?
151. NANCY: Frosted and clear bulbs both give the same amount of light -- though frosted ones are easier on your eyes because there's less glare.
152. FREYMAN: But you still need a shade, don't you?
153. NANCY: Oh, yes -- to protect your eyes, you should always have a shade or a diffusing bowl.
154. FREYMAN: "Diffusing bowl" . . . Is that the name for those white bowls that fit inside lamp shades?
155. NANCY: That's it. They give a good direct light close by -- and indirect light for the rest of the room.
156. FREYMAN: Then one of those might save the expense of having another lamp burning.





157. NANCY: The expense and the electricity.
158. FREYMAN: That's right - we're saving both of them these days.
159. NANCY: We've got to. And here's another hint that will help. If you keep a light burning in your hall or bathroom all night, why not get one of those little seven-watt bulbs that plug right into a wall socket?
160. FREYMAN: Certainly sounds smarter than burning a regular light. If you can give us any more tips like that ---
161. NANCY: Well, here's one that will help, whatever size bulbs you use. Dust - on bulbs, shades or diffusing bowls - cuts down light. By keeping them clean, you get more light for your money.
162. FREYMAN: Well, thanks, Nancy. I hope you're including that point on your Consumers' Tips card about electric light bulbs.
163. NANCY: That one - and several other points. And they're all yours for the asking - if you'll just write in to us here at the Department of Agriculture. We'll give you full instructions as to just how you can get your copy of the Tips on electric bulbs - after we meet Mr. Dan West, Director of the Consumer Division in the Office of Price Administration.
164. WEST:



165. FREYMAN: Thank you, Mr. West. I know that you've answered some of the questions many consumers are asking.
166. WEST: Well, I hope you'll be here next week, Mrs. Freyman -- when Nancy will report the facts on ---
167. NANCY: Woolens -- and how to take care of them.
168. WEST: And \_\_\_\_\_ ---
169. REPORTER: Have you a flashlight?
170. FREYMAN: Yes, but I'm planning to buy another. So I'll be glad for a few pointers before I spend my money. And now, Nancy -- how about those pointers on electric light bulbs you promised us for today?
171. NANCY: The Consumer Tips cards on bulbs are all waiting and ready for you to write in and ask for them. Our announcer, \_\_\_\_\_, will give you full directions ---
172. ANNOUNCER: It's very simple. Just write to the Consumers' Counsel -- Department of Agriculture -- Washington, D. C. Tell us you want your free copy of the Consumer Tips on electric bulbs -- and give us your own name and address, and the call letters of the radio station to which you are listening. That's all you have to do. Don't send us any money. The Tips cards are absolutely free.
173. NANCY: But just because they're free -- don't think that they aren't valuable. As one of our listeners writes ---



174. WOMEN: I'm building a complete file of Consumer Tips cards -- so I can always have the facts on hand when I want to get my money's worth in buying and using things.

175. NANCY: If you want to get the facts for buying and using light bulbs, write to us for your copy of these Consumer Tips. Address your request to: the Consumers' Counsel -- Department of Agriculture -- Washington, D.C.

176. ANNOUNCER: Next week CONSUMER TIME will bring you more valuable facts from your Consumers' Counsel in the Department of Agriculture -- in cooperation with Defense and non-Defense agencies of the United States Government working for consumers.

Heard on today's program were Evelyn Freyman, Nancy Ordway, Nell Fleming, Whit Vernon, Frances Adams, \_\_\_\_\_, and Dan West, Deputy Director of the Consumer Division Defense.

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